



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**LOCAL PROGRAMS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**  
SUITE 600, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING  
505 DEADERICK STREET  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1402  
(615) 741-0791

**JOHN C. SCHROER**  
COMMISSIONER

**BILL HASLAM**  
GOVERNOR

**TO:** Charles Rychen  
Assistant Chief Engineer of Operations

**FROM:**  Jim Moore  
Director of Program Development and Administration Division

**SUBJECT: Proprietary Item Request and Justification for the Winchester Roadscapes Project in Winchester**

The Program Development and Administration Office requests approval to utilize the following proprietary items in the subject project:

Simpson Strong-Tie ZMAX Deck Tension Ties - Model No. DTT2Z-SDS2.5  
Simpson Strong-Tie ZMAX Column CAP - Model No. CCQ76SDS2.5

**Project Description**

State Project No. 26LPLM-F3-016  
Contract No. 110361  
PIN No. 105525.46

The City of Winchester is proposing to construct the Gateway Scenic Overlook Structure which is a 1,000 square foot scenic overlook structure on Boiling Fork Creek at the intersection of Dinah Shore Blvd. and Sharp Springs Road. The structure will be constructed from pressure treated wood. The overlook will span out over a slope overlooking Boiling Fork Creek, and it will be elevated with posts and concrete footers. The components of the structure will be connected using the structural ties listed above. Attached is a letter from the manufacturer stating the materials used to make the connectors comply with Buy American Act.

**Justification**

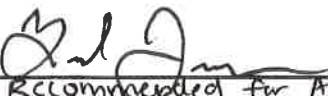
The use of the Simpson Strong-Tie connectors is essential because no equally suitable alternative exists. The structural calculations/design is based on the load capacities of these specific components. The components provide the necessary design loadings to fit within the width and height requirements established by the site layout. The deck tension tie has a similar component by one other manufacturer; however, the structural capacity of it does not meet the structural design requirements. The column cap has a similar component by one other manufacturer; however, the product is not produced with a hot dipped galvanized finish as necessary for an exterior installation.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Monique Hazlewood.

I, Jim Moore, Director of the Program Development and Administration Division of the Tennessee Department of Transportation, do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a) (2) that no equally suitable alternative exists for this patented or proprietary item.

  
Assistant Chief Engineer of Operations

  
Date

  
Director, Traffic Operations Division  
Recommended for Approval



May 21, 2015

File No. 0101-065

Ms. Whitney Sullivan  
Transportation Manager  
Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Local Programs Development Office  
505 Deaderick St., Ste 600 James K. Polk Building  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0341

**RE: PIN No. 105525.46 Winchester Gateway Scenic Overlook  
Proprietary Material Approval for Simpson Strong-Tie Connectors**

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

In an effort to promote business and tourism within the Winchester and the Downtown District, the city continues their efforts to enhance mobility and beautify the natural scenery, which surrounds the area.

One such project is the Gateway Scenic Overlook, which will serve as a place to stop and view the scenery of the surrounding area. The proposed overlook is to be an elevated wooden structure spanning over the slope to Boiling Fork Creek. The use of the Simpson Strong-Tie connectors is essential because no equally suitable alternative exists. The structural calculations/design are based on the load capacities of these specific components. The components provide the necessary design loadings to fit within the width and height requirements established by the site layout.

In consideration of the statements presented above, the City of Winchester requests that the Simpson Strong-Tie connectors be allowed for use on this project.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please give me a call at (931) 967-2532 or via email at [bethrhoton@winchester-tn.com](mailto:bethrhoton@winchester-tn.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beth Rhoton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Beth" and last name "Rhoton" clearly visible.

Beth Rhoton  
City Administrator



To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to verify that Simpson Strong-Tie® structural connectors are manufactured in the United States.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Division A, Title XVI, Section 1605 and the Buy American Act (BAA) sections 25.202 and 25.4, state that only domestic construction materials are to be used on government projects covered by these acts (with some provisions for non-domestic products). All Simpson Strong-Tie connectors are manufactured at one of several ISO-9001-registered facilities within the United States.

Thank You,

Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc.